



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 1648**

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 02356.0011-06000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Marc ALIZON et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1648
)	
Application No. 09/041,975)	Examiner: Jeffrey S. Parkin
)	
Filing Date: March 13, 1998)	Confirmation No: 4167
)	
For: VARIANT OF LAV VIRUSES)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed October 21, 2005, the period for response having been extended to March 21, 2006 by a request for extension of two months and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper, beginning on page 2

Remarks begin on page 9.

Attachments to the amendment include *Ratner et al.*, HTLV-III, LAV, ARV are variants of the same AIDS virus, Nature 313:636-637 (1985).